



**January 19, 2026**  
**Volume 43 - Issue 15**

*"Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves!"*

The Rotary Club of Calgary comprises professional and community leaders brought together in fellowship to make a better future.

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



Rotary International's theme for the 2025-2026 year

## **Birthdays**

Lori Forand	January 1
Bruce Graham	January 3
Sonny Belenkie	January 5
Jim Shaner	January 16
Emery Varga	January 16

## **Were you at the RCCD meeting January 13, 2026?**

Doug McMillan

If you were not among the approximately 55 members and guests attending the Jan 13<sup>th</sup> meeting chaired by President Bill Hamilton, you have future opportunities for fellowship, interesting speakers and the lunch fare of the Palliser Hotel at future club meetings.

After O Canada (Michael Pierson on the piano), President Bill welcomed members and guests and thanked "Front of the House" volunteers (Trevor Axworthy, Bill Redmond, Bob Taylor and Iman Saad). Madeleine King and Franco Savoia contributed their "Happy Bucks" and Michael Broadhurst introduced those with birthdays (see elsewhere in this COG).

Madeleine introduced new Club Member Louise Redmond (see accompanying COG article).



1. Your Scribe Doug McMillan
2. President Bill welcoming Louise Redmond to Rotary
3. Tyson Schmidt asking for casino volunteers

Madeleine also spoke about the Commonwealth Day Service March 9, 2026 at Westminster Abbey in London indicating that there was one ticket available and that anyone interested should contact her by January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Tyson Schmidt indicated there were still volunteer positions to fill for Casino nights Feb 20 and 21, 2026 (further information elsewhere in this COG, in the District Bulletin or contact Tyson).

Ron Hymers introduced his U of C Rotaractor mentee, Hanna Paez, a first year accounting student who grew up in Olds.



Ron also mentioned the Heritage Park Rotary Veggie Plant Fundraiser for NSTEP. Please sign up for plants by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>; further information in this COG, from Ron or the NSTEP website.

President Bill presented Past President Craig Henderson with a certificate from Rotary District 5360 recognizing Craig's support for the Polio Plus program over several years.



Guest Speaker Kai Fahrion, CEO Zeno Renewables, was introduced by President Bill. Kai is an Ironman and Marathon participant. He has worked with Zeno since 2025 and has won an Entrepreneur of the Year award. He views a solar panel on every roof as an important catalyst for needed change. In the last 10 years, he has facilitated over 5,000 projects and has a goal of solar panels on one million properties by 2040.



Current use of solar panels (95% made in China) on residential homes has a “payback” of seven years. Calgary customers remain on the grid contributing excess power when able and purchasing power when needed. Commercial opportunities are similar, reducing operating costs and their carbon footprint.

There were several questions relating to solar panel lifespan (currently about 25- 30 years), recycling (facilities improving) and opportunities to go completely off the grid (not possible in Calgary but could occur in some outlying regions).

President Bill thanked Kai for speaking indicating that a donation was being made in his name to Well Spring Alberta.

Joe Fras had the lucky ticket for the 50/50 draw but, alas, had to settle for chocolates when he did not draw the white ball from the bag.

The next meeting January 27, 2026 will feature Bryce Starlight speaking on Taza Park, Tsuut'ina Nation.

## Louise Redmond Rotary Introduction

Louise Redmond

Retired in 2020 from 26-year career as a lawyer in Calgary, I enjoyed a busy, interesting and engaging career during which time I also dedicated myself to raising my family. Retirement has brought the gift of opportunity to engage in a repurposed life which to date has included:

- Serving as member of the Board of Trustees of the Bethany Care Society where I serve as the Chair the Governance, CEO Oversight and Nominations Committee, and also serve as a member of the Board of the Bethany Care Foundation.
- Appointments to sit on two City of Calgary Appeal Boards: the Licensing and Community Standards Appeal Board and the Tax Incentive Appeal Board. I work with my fellow

board members to hear and adjudicate on a wide variety of appeal issues brought forward by Calgarians.

- Volunteering at Brown Bagging for Calgary Kids where I make sandwiches and bag fruit and veggies in support of this very worthwhile organization as it works to meet the large and ever increasing demand for school lunches for kids experiencing food insecurity. At Brown Bagging, I have also helped to lead junior and senior high school students through the process of understanding the benefits of volunteer service.

Beyond my volunteer work, I enjoy travel, theatre and concert going with my husband Don, and reading and discussion with my lovely circle of book club members.

In a nutshell, what has drawn me to Rotary is its motto of "Service Above Self".



## Casino Volunteering - Service Above Self!

Angeline Hayes

Have you signed up for our Casino fundraiser Feb 20th and 21st? How many date nights will there be? How did our Club Runner messages do? Did you see a message from Angeline on your CR app?

For dates and details see the link to Tyson's sign up [here](#):

## What Does Rotary Do?

Doug McMillan

Recently Rotary has made a website <[spc.rotary.org](http://spc.rotary.org)> available to non-Rotarians. This site has information on various Rotary projects around the world and replaces the former Rotary Showcase which was only available to Rotarians.

While there is an opportunity for Rotarians to post local and international projects, these are often not submitted and so not available when someone searches by project type or area of the world. Please consider posting the projects of which you are proud.

Whether or not you are posting projects, please check out <[spc.rotary.org](http://spc.rotary.org)> to see what is happening in the Rotary world.

## Annual Veggie and Flower Fund-raiser

Deb Hymers



## 12th Annual Veggie and Plant Fundraiser in support of NSTEP and Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park



It's that time of year again - time to plant kindness and grow support!  
Order **stunning flower planters, lush hanging baskets, and tasty homegrown vegetables** - all while supporting two amazing causes: NSTEP and the Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park.

Perfect as a gift for Mother's Day, birthdays or even a holiday gift.  
Treat yourself *and* brighten someone else's day!

Thank you for helping our community bloom - your support means the world!

### 12" Hanging Baskets (\$47.50)

Choose from:



### 16" Planters (\$65.00)

Choose from:



*Please note: We order a beautiful mix of planters and hanging baskets from the greenhouse so colors and plant varieties will not be exactly as pictured above.*

Geraniums - \$13.50 (6"pot)



Orange



Lavender



Red

SUN

Check out  
these  
beautiful  
begonias  
and  
geraniums!



Begonias - \$15.25 (6"pot)



White



Orange



Red

SHADE

### Get your VEGGIES direct from your garden



Veggie Planter (16")  
\$55



Herb Planter (15")  
\$49.50



Beefsteak Tomato  
1 Gallon Pot  
\$13



Cherry Tomato  
Hanging Basket  
(12") \$35

**Order deadline is Saturday, January 31st, 2026**

Pickup Wednesday May 20, 2026 with times to be assigned at a later date



**ORDER NOW**

Please share this FUNdraiser with family and friends.

Proceeds are split 50/50 with Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park and NSTEP. If you have any questions, please contact Sheri Courtenay at [sheri.courtenay@nstep.ca](mailto:sheri.courtenay@nstep.ca)

**Thank you for your continued support of NSTEP & Rotary!**

### Howie's Lunch January 5

Angeline Hayes

A few Rotarians brought in the first week of the New Year 2026 (on January 5th) at the Hawthorne. At Howie's informal meet up Rotarian lunch, we enjoyed nice company, great food and good camaraderie. The group also enjoyed a tasty home made cookie that I baked, brought and shared with each attendee- a delicious desert!

This is who was there:

Howie Shikaze

Dave Leslie  
Bruce Millar  
George Brookman  
Craig Henderson  
Angeline Hayes  
Lateef Habib  
Julie Visser  
Doug Webb



## Club Meeting Dates - Note NEW changes!

President Bill Hamilton and Program Director Terry McMahon

Jan. 27 - Guest Speaker: Bryce Starlight, Taza Park Tsuut'ina Nation

Feb. 10 - Guest Speaker: Mayor Jeromy Farkas

Feb. 17 - Special Meeting - Club Assembly

Feb. 24 - Guest Speaker: John Brown, Dean of the University of Calgary School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape

Mar. 10 - Guest Speaker: Chief of Police Katie McLellan

Mar. 24 - Guest Speaker: Lara Murphy, Calgary Wild women's soccer team CEO

Apr. 7

Apr. 21 - Guest Speaker: Cheryl Barnard, Olympian and CEO Sports Hall of Fame

May 5 and 19

June 2, 16 and 30

**Proudly Presenting Our Corporate Members**



## Upcoming Events

### January 27 Club Luncheon – Preserving Legacy While Embracing Change: The Power of Partnerships in On-Reserve Development

133 9 Avenue SW,

*Jan. 27, 2026 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (UTC-07:00)*

### Youth Committee Monthly Meeting

*Jan. 28, 2026*

*12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

### Frank n' Stein ( 1st Thursday)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Feb. 05, 2026*

*4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.*

### February 10 Club Luncheon – Guest Speaker: Jeromy Farkas

133 9 Avenue SW,

*Feb. 10, 2026 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (UTC-07:00)*

### Frank n' Stein (3rd Thursday)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Feb. 19, 2026*

*4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.*

### February 24 Club Luncheon – Guest Speaker: John Brown

133 9 Ave SW

*Feb. 24, 2026 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (UTC-07:00)*

### Youth Committee Monthly Meeting

*Feb. 25, 2026*

*12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

### Frank n' Stein ( 1st Thursday)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Mar. 05, 2026*

*4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.*

[View entire list](#)

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